Mrs. Williamson is cited as UDC 'real daughter'

By HAZEL LEE MARTIN

The Appomattox Chapter United Daughters of the Confederacy recognizes Mrs. W. L. Williamson as a Real-Daughter of a Confederate Veteran of Appomattox County. With a twinkle in her eye and with much enthusiasm, Mrs. Williamson reminisced for four score years plus and recalled interesting and amusing phases of her colorful, useful and interesting life in Appomattox County, as we visited her recently.

Mrs. Williamson, who will soon be 86 years old, is the youngest and last surviving member of a family of 9 children. She is the daughter of Stephen Thomas and Elvira Gordon Marsh and spent the early part of her life in the Evergreen neighborhood.

Stephen Thomas Marsh was 21 years old when he went into service in Company B of the 18th Infantry Regiment Confederate States of America, in the year 1861. Records show that he was ill several times, once as a patient at Chimbarao Hospital in Richmond in 1864, and later a furlough home after a bout with typhoid fever.

Quoting from "A Marsh Book", written by Dr. Mervyn Williamson, son of Mrs. Williamson, he writes of his grandfather, "At the battle of Saylor's Creek, his unit was in the thick of the fighting; he was either captured and escaped or avoided capture when his unit was taken. He ran down a large gully and evaded the Federals; then he made his way to Farmville where he spent the night of April 6, 1865 at Buffalo Lithia Springs. The next day he arrived at home, and the news of the surrender at Appomattox reached him on April 9, while he was having breakfast at home. The next day he rejoined his unit at Appomattox Court House and received his parole.

He did not talk a great deal about the war but his children remembered some of the things he said. When soldiers slept on the ground in winter, their long hair would freeze to the ground and have to be clipped off before they could get up. Food was lacking especially toward the end of the war. And during the march from Richmond and Petersburg to Appomattox there was only parched corn and buds off the trees that were shooting in early April."

Mrs. W. L. Williamson

Mrs. Williamson, wife of the late William Lee Williamson, is the mother of 6 children, Dr. Mervyn Williamson and Melva Williamson of Lynchburg, Mrs. Audrey Phelps, Elbert Williamson, Mrs. Lonel (Neil) Cabiness and William H. Williamson of Appomattox. She resides on the family farm on Route 613 with her son, Bill. It is a rare and difficult attainment to grow old gracefully and happily, but to me Mrs. Williamson is a living example of this achievement.

Note: On the evening Otho and I visited Mrs. Williamson, she and Bill were hosting the Piney Mountain String Band for one of their regular practice sessions. This is really a most talented group, who not only gives enjoyment to those who listen, but find delightful satisfaction and joy in making music.

'War' course planned

A course aimed at history and American Civil War buffs will be offered at CVCC on Thursday evenings, beginning June 19. The course will be taught by Benjamin W. Wright, Jr., Associate Professor of History at CVCC and immediate past President of the Lynchburg Civil War Round Table.

The ten-week course will explore the Civil War from many points of view, considering origins of the war, its military and civilian history, and its aftermath and significance. Wright and guest speakers, including WSET-TV meteorologist Charles Middleton, will lecture and conduct discussions as well as tours and field trips to sites and institutions associated with the Civil War.

The three-credit course will meet from 7:00-9:40 on Thursday evenings in Room 2123.

Persons interested in details of the course should call or visit CVCC prior to the first class meeting.

Revival slated at Bethel

Bethel Bible Church will be having revival services from June 22 to June 29. The main speaker will be missionary evangelist Chaplin Bunny Gregory.

The Chaplin along with his wife and son minister to the truckers across the U.S.A. They use a tractor-trailer as their home and chapel to minister to the truckers in gospel song and word.

The Rev. David S. Grove wants to welcome all to come.

The meetings will begin each night at 7 p.m. The church is located on Linden St., in the old Reynolds store. A nursery will be provided.

Dudley honored

Mrs. Margaret L. Dudley of Pamplin was one of 21 persons receiving the Honorary State Farmer Degree from the Virginia Association FFA during the fifth session of the 54th Annual State Convention.

The convention was held on the Virginia Tech campus starting Tuesday and will continue until tomorrow (Friday).

Honorary membership is presented to farmers, school superintendents, principals, members of boards of education, businessmen, chapter advisors, teachers, staff members in agricultural education, and others who are helping to advance vocational agriculture and the FFA, and who have rendered outstanding service.

President Tim Gano presented the Honorary State Farmer Degree to the recipients from Virginia.

Thirteen senior Appomattox FFA students get degrees

Thirteen members of the Appomattox Senior FFA Chapter will receive their State Farmer Degrees in ceremonies tonight at the State FFA Convention on the campus of Virginia Tech in Blacksburg.

Local FFA members receiving their degrees will include Duane Blanks, Ray Cheatham, Bruce Drinkard, Bob Dunnam, Robert Harding, Ronald Hipps, Richard Jones, Kevin Moore, Jonathan Pickett, Scott Stevens, Dennis Stratton, Jerry Trent and Roger Walton.

The number of FFA members elected to the State Farmer Degree is limited to 3 percent of the total membership in the state FFA Association each year. To be selected for this degree, members must have demonstrated leadership abilities, participated in a variety of FFA activities, have completed a satisfactory program of supervised occupational experience in agriculture, and have a satisfactory scholastic record.

The State Farmer Degree is the highest degree that the state association may bestow on any FFA member.

Robert Harding

Jonathan Pickett

Bruce Drinkard

Dennis Stratton

Duane Blanks

Ronald Hipps

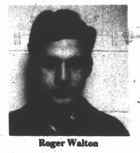
Jerry Trent

Bob Dunnam

Kevin Moore

Ray Cheatham

Richard Jones



Roger Walton

Scott Stevens

In Special Olympics

19 local youths compete

Nineteen Appomattox Special Olympians participated in the 1980 State Summer games held at Virginia Tech June 13 and 14.

Alvin Walker represented area 12 in the processional during opening ceremonies in the coliseum. The Olympians were entertained by clowns and a "disco."

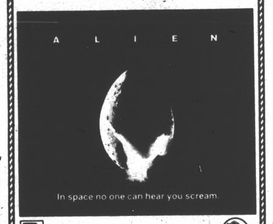
Each Olympian competed in two track and field events. There were also three junior relay teams from Appomattox Elementary School. During the meet the Olympians participated in soccer, volleyball and frisbee clinics.

The 19 local Olympians proudly brought home seven gold, nine silver and 15 bronze medals, in addition to their participation medals. The girls' relay team and one of the boys' teams each took third place in their competition.

Special Olympics coordinator Evelyn Ford thanked volunteer chaperones, Mr. and Mrs. John Harwood of Virginia Beach, Mrs. Bea Hudson, Laurie Harwood, Lynn Grier, Kanthy Lynch, Bobbie Gunnell and Nancy Goodman for their time.

Participants and their placement in the various events were: Barbara Jean Broggin; Mary Jones, second in standing long jump; Sheila Jones, first in 50 meters and standing long jump; Betty Morgan, second in 50 meters and third in standing long jump; Glenda Mosley; Juanita Mosley, first in 50 meters and second in standing long jump; Sandra Mosley, second in 50 meters; Patricia Petty, second in 50 meters and third in standing long jump; Roger Abbitt, third in 50 meters and first in standing long jump; Kent Bailey; Dwight Broggin, first in 50 meters; James Broggin, second in 50 meters; Don Fleshman; Marlon Fleshman, second in 50 meters and third in standing long jump; Walter Johnson, third in 50 meters and standing long jump; Karoy Jones, second in 50 meters and first in standing long jump; Calvin Petty, second in 50 meters; Bobbi Robinson, third in 50 meters and first in standing long jump; and Alvin Walker.

FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY
JUNE 20, 21, 22



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